US Army Corps of Engineers®
Philadelphia District

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Hazleton Acid Mine Reclamation
Luzerne County, PA

April 2009

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: Rep. Kanjorski (PA-11)

APPROPRIATION / PHASE:
Continuing Authorities / Feasibility

BUSINESS PROGRAM: Ecosystem Restoration with Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

AUTHORITY: Section 204, Water Resources Development Act of 1992, as amended.

LOCATION: Potential project site could be within or in the vicinity of the City of Hazleton, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

DESCRIPTION: A project was initially proposed within the City of Hazelton on a property directly off of Interstate 81 bounded by Routes 924, Route 309, and Broad Street. However, the original project is not viable for several reasons:

1) The stream that was initially intended for daylighting will be put into an underground pipe and culvert as required by the PADEP. This is required as part of the anticipated residential and industrial development. A study to determine this need was funded by a PADEP Growing Greener grant in 2006. The Section 204 Authority requires some form of aquatic ecosystem restoration. The original intent of the project was to divert the streams around the mines by using dredged material, thus daylighting the streams.

2) The initially proposed project area is slated for private and commercial redevelopment. The Section 204 Authority does not allow the project area to be developed. The project land must have a special conservation easement and be accessible to the public.

3) The initial view of the City of Hazelton was that this was a grant program and that the dredged material would be provided at 100% Federal cost. Their interest diminished after it was explained that this was a cost shared project.

Since this general area is one of the largest mine water discharges in the anthracite region, another project site could be established, but an interested cost-sharing sponsor must be identified.

The purpose of the project would be to improve water quality by reducing the amount of water entering the abandoned coal mines. One potential solution would be using dredged material to divert the streams around the mines.

STATUS: FY07 funds in the amount of $100K were used to initiate the feasibility study. However due to a lack of sponsorship for pursuing further investigations no further funds are requested.

FINANCIAL DATA ($000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Feasibility	400	300	700
Design and Implementation	1,500	*500	2,000
TOTAL	1,700	600	2,300

*Includes LERRD

BUDGET DATA ($000)		Comments
FY 07	100	
FY 08	0	
FY 09	TBD	

SPONSOR: No sponsor has been identified.

PROJECT MANAGER: Heather Jensen
(215) 656-6586
heather.n.jensen@usace.army.mil